

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An Examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to Applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this Examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with John Thompson on August 28, 2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 6 is cancelled.

Claim 7 is cancelled.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-5, 8-14 and 16-40 are allowed.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to Applicant's disclosure.

Clayden (U.S. 5,787,185) discloses a method of verifying the identity of an individual comprising acquiring an image of the subcutaneous vein pattern at a predetermined region of the individual using illumination lamps and a video camera.

Choi (U.S. 6,301,375) discloses a method and system for identifying an individual comprising acquiring a voltage/current representation of the subcutaneous vein pattern at a predetermined region of the individual using an optical sensor.

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4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to JESSICA REIDEL whose telephone number is (571)272-2129. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Carl H. Layno can be reached on (571)272-4949. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jessica L. Reidel/
Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3766
August 28, 2008

/Kennedy J. Schaetzle/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3766
September 1, 2008